

HOPKINS, P. H.

INTERVIEW

9216

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LEGEND & STORY FORM
WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma

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Field worker's name Robert H. Boatman

This report made on (date) November 12, 1939

1. This legend was
secured from (name) F. M. Hopkins,

Address Blanchard, Oklahoma

This person is (male or female) White, Negro, Indian,

If Indian, give tribe _____

2. Origin and history of legend or story _____

3. Write out the legend or story as completely as possible. Use blank
sheets and attach firmly to this form. Number of sheets
attached Threesheets.

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Robert H. Boatman,
Investigator,
November 12, 1937.

Interview with F. M. Hopkins,
Blanchard, Oklahoma.

I came to the Indian Territory from Texas, having been born in the state of Missouri, November 20, 1857, but removing from there with my parents at an early age.

When I established myself in what is now Oklahoma it was in 1892. I settled at old Goodland near the town of Hugo. This country held great opportunities then for any one who was interested in making money; however there was not very much here in the way of civilization. I put in a general store at Hugo and also went into the business of stock raising and farming. It was not hard to make plenty of money here then, once you had gained the confidence of the Indians and the earlier Pioneers. There were lots of Blanket Indians, and they would buy anything a merchant had to offer for sale and about always had the money to pay for whatever they had purchased, especially the Choctaws and Chickasaws.

The Comanche Indians were very different from the other tribes; they were a very mean tribe of Indians.

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and were given to stealing and murdering. Many times a band of Comanche Indians would invade this particular section of country and murder whole families of people, then set fire to the primitive buildings and take away all the horses and whatever other possessions they cared for. Often times they would come upon a bunch of cattle on the range and would kill as many as they cared to kill, cutting away and taking only the hams and leaving the rest of the carcass there for the wolves.

The Comanche tribe was feared by all people for their treacherous ways; however, the honesty of the people was generally better than of today.

Once a man owed me \$50.00, having given a mortgage on some horses and cattle. This man left the country with all this stock and I followed him from Hugo to Mill Creek with a Winchester but here lost trail of him and had to give up the chase. Later, I learned that this fellow had organized with a band of outlaws and I lost the \$50.00.

With the establishment of the town of Blanchard I moved there and established a very profitable business in 1906

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in stock raising and farming and the buying of cotton.

My home is located in the town of Blanchard where
I have lived for the past thirty years.